AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.   (Canceled)

2.   (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 22, wherein the at least one computer is further configured to, in response to each received event data, calculate a predicted value of the at least one metric based at least in part on the historical data and the received event data. ~~A system according to claim 1, in which said at-least one computer is arranged to repetitively calculate an actual, expected and predicted value of said metric from selected historical data from said database so as to provide realtime actual, expected and predicted values.~~

3.   (Currently Amended) ~~A system according to claim 1, in which said~~ The system according to claim 22, wherein the at least one computer is arranged to store one or more rules for operating on at least one of the received event data, the actual value, the expected value, and the predicted value. ~~said real-time event-driven values and/or said real-time actual, expected and predicted values in accordance with predefined conditions, and to execute said rules in event-driven fashion when said values change.~~

4.   (Currently Amended) ~~A system according to claim 1, in which said~~ The system according to claim 22, wherein the at least one computer is arranged to store one or more target values and to compare ~~said real-time event-driven values and/or said real-time~~ at least one of the received event data and the predicted values with ~~said~~ the one or more target values.

5.   (Currently Amended) ~~A system according to claim 1, in which said~~ The system according to claim 22, wherein the at least one computer is arranged to store one or more alert definitions for causing a signal to be sent when a said rule is met.

6.   (Currently Amended) ~~A system according to claim 5, in which said~~ The system according to claim 5, wherein the at least one computer is arranged to send a message to a terminal selected ~~in dependence on the nature of~~ based on the alert.

7.   (Currently Amended) ~~A system according to claim 6, in which~~ The system according to claim 6, wherein the message is an email message.

8.   (Currently Amended) A ~~system according to claim 7, which is arranged~~ The system according to claim 7, further configured to open a discussion thread under predefined conditions, and involving a predefined group.

9.   (Currently Amended) A The system according to claim 22~~claim 1~~, further comprising means for generating a real-time-updated graphical user interface to display data selected from at least one of the received event data, the actual value, the expected value, the predicted value, and an alert. ~~said real-time event-driven values and/or said real-time actual, expected and predicted values and/or said raw business data and/or said alerts.~~

10.   (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium ~~at said~~ in communication with the at least one computer of the system of ~~claim 1~~claim 22, wherein said computer readable medium comprises instructions which, when executed, cause the ~~has a program which configures said~~ at least one computer to calculate a value of a metric based at least in part on the received event data. ~~combine said new raw data and calculate said at least one value of a metric.~~

11.   (Canceled)

12.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~11~~23, wherein the ~~defining~~ metrics are defined by an operator of the computer system. ~~which describe the performance of an organization, corporation, team or group, or business process, includes one or more of:~~

~~definition of metrics by an expert operator of the computer system to establish standard metrics for an organization, corporation, team or group, or business process;~~

~~definition of metrics by an operator of the computer system to establish metrics for an organization, corporation, team or group, business process or personal use.~~

13.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~11~~23, wherein the ~~defining~~ targets include ~~for the current and future performance as measured by the metrics includes:~~

~~definition of~~ goals <u>defined</u> by an expert operator of the computer system to establish standard goals for ~~an~~ <u>the</u> organization<u>; and</u> ~~, corporation, team or group, or business process; and~~

~~definition of~~ goals <u>defined</u> by a business operator<u>.</u> ~~of the computer system to establish targets for an organization, corporation, team or group, business process or personal use.~~

14.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~11~~<u>23</u>, wherein ~~the~~ projecting ~~the~~ likelihoods of ~~goals~~ <u>targets</u> being achieved ~~in the future~~ includes forecasts <u>of</u> performance and ranges ~~of potential~~ <u>likely</u> performance.

15.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~11~~<u>23, further comprising:</u> ~~, wherein the optimizing performance of one or more metrics includes one or more of:~~

detecting relationships between different metrics;

~~use of~~ <u>calculating with</u> the computer system ~~to calculate~~ optimal values for goals which have a relationship with <u>one or more metrics;</u> ~~the metric or metrics to be optimized;~~

~~development of~~ <u>developing</u> scenarios to simulate performance under certain circumstances.

16.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~11~~<u>23, further comprising:</u> ~~, wherein the detecting the significance of a transaction, event or change in data includes one or more of:~~

~~likelihood of achieving a goal or not;~~

~~recalculation of~~ <u>recalculating</u> forecast performance;

~~recalculation of~~ <u>recalculating</u> optimal goal values;

notifying an operator of the computer system that the <u>alert or action has been generated; and</u> ~~detection has taken place; and~~

<u>reporting the comparison of the expected value and the actual value.</u> ~~interpretation of why the transaction, event or change in data is significant.~~

17.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~11~~<u>23, further comprising:</u> ~~, wherein the performing an action in response to the step of~~ detecting the significance of a transaction, event or change in data ~~includes one or more of:~~

notifying ~~a user or groups of~~one or more users of the computer system of the alert or action;

storing status information to reflect the priority of the alert or action;

storing information ~~on~~related to the alert or action; ~~taken;~~

storing status information after the action has been taken; and

correlating previous actions taken with performance and achievement of goals.

18.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~11~~23, wherein the ~~distributing collective understanding of the meaning and significance of a metric, transaction, event or change in data across an organization, corporation, team or group~~ publishing includes one or more of~~:~~

storing annotations, comments and threads of discussion;

linking annotations, comments and threads of discussion to metrics, targets and forecasts;

publishing metrics, goals and forecast performance across ~~an~~ the organization; ~~, corporation, team or group;~~

publishing annotations, comments and threads of discussion across ~~an~~the organization. ~~, corporation, team or group.~~

19.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~11~~23, further comprising: ~~wherein the monitoring performance of one or more metrics includes one or more of:~~

~~the automatic calculation of~~automatically calculating a previously defined dimension ~~on~~ of the metric;

~~the automatic creation by the system of~~automatically generating additional individual level metrics ~~as new instances of the dimension are added~~, without ~~any~~operator involvement; ~~and~~

~~the automatic interpretation of this~~automatically interpreting the new metric over time; ~~and~~

automatically calculating an expected time of arrival. ~~wherein the automatic calculation of expected and forecast metrics, including but not limited to, the calculation of expected time of arrival at certain goal points or points in a process.~~

20.   (Currently Amended) A method of enabling users, without day to day support from expert computer operators, to configure a system, the method comprising:

creating user interfaces for displaying data, including ~~but not limited to~~ one or more of metrics, goals, forecast performance, alerts, annotations, comments and threads of discussion using graphical and non-graphical displays;

publishing the user interfaces across an organization, ~~corporation, team or group~~ in different formats: and ~~, including but not limited to web based formats, documents and third party electronic document formats; and~~

scheduling automatic publishing and distribution based on specified time intervals or defined business rules and alerts.

21.   (Canceled)

22.   (New) A computer system for managing data, the system comprising:

a memory storing historical data comprising values for each of a plurality of metrics at a plurality of points in time; and

at least one computer configured to:

from one or more external sources, receive a stream of event data for at least one of the metrics, wherein the event data is transmitted to and received by the at least one computer independent of a request from the computer,

in response to each received event data, calculate with the computer an actual value for at least one metric based at least in part on the event data,

in response to each received event data, automatically calculate with the computer an expected value for the at least one metric,

compare the expected value with the actual value, and

determine whether to generate an alert or action based on the comparison of the expected value and the actual value.

23.   (New) A computer implemented method of estimating the impact on an organization of an event, the method comprising:

defining metrics which describe performance of the organization;

storing targets for current and future metrics;

projecting likelihoods of targets being achieved;

from one or more external sources, receiving a stream of data related to the event for at least one of the metrics, wherein the event data is transmitted to the at least one computer independent of a request from the computer;

in response to each received event data, calculating with the computer an actual value for at least one metric based at least in part on the event data;

in response to each received event data, automatically calculating with the computer an expected value for the at least one metric;

comparing the expected value with the actual value; and

determining whether to generate an alert or action based on the comparison of the expected value and the actual value.

24.   (New) A computer system for managing data relating to the performance of an enterprise, the system comprising:

a memory storing historical business data comprising values of each of a plurality of metrics at a plurality of points in time; and

at least one computer configured to:

from one or more external sources, receive a stream of event data for at least one of the metrics, wherein the event data is transmitted to the at least one computer independent of a request from the computer,

in response to each received event data, calculate with the computer an actual value for at least one metric based at least in part on the event data,

in response to each received event data, calculate with the computer an expected value for the at least one metric based on the historical business data.